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CITY OF MANCHESTER *Health Department*

PRESS RELEASE

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City of Manchester to Spray for Mosquito Control on August 23, 2012

Manchester, NH – The Manchester Health Department announced today that the City of Manchester will spray to control adult mosquitoes on Thursday, August 23, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. If weather conditions are not acceptable on August 23, 2012, spraying will take place on Friday, August 24, 2012 at the same time.

According to Tim Soucy, Public Health Director, "The Manchester Health Department continues to identify mosquitoes which have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). Since the evening use of sports fields and some parks, when people are more apt to be bitten by mosquitoes, has increased with the commencement of the fall sports leagues, we want to be proactive in protecting the public health of the community. In addition to this action, residents must continue to protect themselves through the use of appropriate insect repellent and wearing long pants and long sleeved shirts at dawn and dusk and the elimination of mosquito breeding areas."

Spraying may be done in the following locations:

Gossler / Parkside School; Parker Varney School; Southside Middle School; West Memorial Field; Highland Goffes Falls School; Green Acres / McLaughlin Schools; Jewett Street School; McDonough School; Hillside School; Memorial High School; Stark Park; Livingston Park; Rock Rimmon Park; Derryfield Park; Youngsville Park; Padden Field / Stevens Pond Park; Derryfield Country Club; Raco Theodore Park; Piscataquog River Park; Wolf Park; Basquil-Sheehan Park; Prout Park; Stevens Park; Brown Mitchell Park; St. Anthony Park; Precourt Park; Goffs Falls Park; Gill Stadium Complex; Singer / Merrimack River Park; Clement Lemire Athletic Complex.

Dragon Mosquito Control will carry out the mosquito control program using backpack sprayers and/or a truck mounted sprayer on City owned property only. No city-wide road or aerial spraying is to be conducted.

Residents may call the Manchester Health Department at 624-6466 x325 or visit the City's website at www.manchesternh.gov for more information regarding spray dates and times, location, insecticides, precautions and other concerns.

Prevention Guidelines for West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis

1. Eliminate standing water and other mosquito breeding locations around your property. Please do not attempt to drain or alter natural waterbodies for mosquito control, since the management of ponds and wetlands is regulated by the Department of Environmental Services and any planned alterations will require a permit before work may begin. In warm weather, mosquitoes can breed in any puddle that lasts more than 4 days!

- Remove old tires from your property.
- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots, or other containers. Don't overlook containers that have become overgrown by aquatic vegetation.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left outside.
- Make sure roof gutters are clean and draining properly.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools and hot tubs. If not in use, keep empty and covered and keep covers free of standing water.
- Aerate garden ponds or stock them with fish.
- Turn over wheelbarrows and change water in birdbaths at least twice weekly.
- Turn over plastic wading pools when not in use.
- Remind or help neighbors to eliminate breeding sites on their properties.

2. Be aware of where mosquitoes live and breed and keep them from entering your home.

- Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Weeds, tall grass, and bushes provide an outdoor home for adult mosquitoes, including several species commonly associated with West Nile virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis.
- Mosquitoes can enter homes through unscreened windows or doors or broken screens. Make sure that doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace all screens in your home that have tears or holes.
- Resting mosquitoes can often be flushed from indoor resting sites by using sweeping motions under beds, behind bedside tables etc. and once in flight, exterminated prior to sleeping at night.

3. Protect yourself from mosquito bites.

- If outside during evening, nighttime, and dawn hours when mosquitoes are most active and likely to bite, children and adults should wear protective clothing such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and socks.
- Consider the use of an effective insect repellent, such as one containing DEET. A repellent containing 30% or less DEET (N,N-diethyl-methyl-meta-toluamide) for children and adults. Use DEET according to the manufacturer's directions. Children should not apply DEET to themselves. Repellents that contain Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 have also been determined to be effective.
- Vitamin B, ultrasonic devices, incense, and bug zappers have not been shown to be effective in preventing mosquito bites.